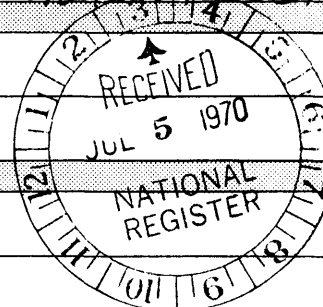


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Connecticut	
COUNTY: Fairfield	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-10-09-0031	DATE 10/15/70



1. NAME	
COMMON: Lockwood-Mathews Mansion	
AND/OR HISTORIC: Elm Park House	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 295 West Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Norwalk			
STATE Connecticut	CODE 06	COUNTY: Fairfield	CODE 001

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME: City of Norwalk	
STREET AND NUMBER: North Main Street	
CITY OR TOWN: South Norwalk	STATE: Connecticut
	CODE 06

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Town Hall	
STREET AND NUMBER: North Main Street	
CITY OR TOWN: South Norwalk	STATE: Connecticut
	CODE 06

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY: 1. Historic American Buildings Survey 2. Connecticut Historic Structures and Landmarks Survey	
DATE OF SURVEY: 2. 1966 - 69	
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: 1. Library of Congress 2. Connecticut Historical Commission	
STREET AND NUMBER: 2. 75 Elm Street	
CITY OR TOWN: 1. Washington, D.C. 2. Hartford	STATE: Connecticut
	CODE 06

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Connecticut	COUNTY: Fairfield
ENTRY NUMBER 70-10-09-0031	DATE 10/15/70
FOR NPS USE ONLY	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

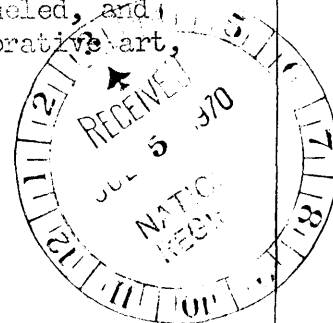
The sixty-room Lockwood-Mathews Mansion retains its original appearance and internal structure with the exception of a conservatory which was destroyed a few years ago. The exterior of the building consists of assymetrical, alternating, recessed and projecting masses. The architectural details are the classically derived motifs characteristic of Second Empire Style. The building is four stories high and carries a mansard roof topped by finials and ironwork. There is a veranda on the south side of the building and a tower on the Southeast corner, while an enormous porte-cochere carved with Le Grand Lockwood's initials in the keystone leads to the front door.

The construction of the mansion resembles that of a fortress. It has a double wall with a four-inch air space. The outer walls are hand-cut Italian granite. The inner walls are brick. The roof is covered with black slate and tin.

Within the building the rooms are arranged around a central octagonal rotunda. This is lighted by a skylight four stories (forty-two feet) above the floor. The fine parquetry of the floor, the elaborate carving of the newels of the staircase, and the inlaid balusters of the balcony are important parts of the elaborate ornamentation of this central room. All of the rooms exhibit woodwork--carving, elaborate inlaid patterns, and painted motifs. The vestibule has frescoed side walls and a groined frescoed ceiling. In the entrance hall four columns and four pilasters of mottled Florentine marble stand on an inlaid marble floor. The dining room walls are frescoed and its ceiling is paneled and frescoed. The library, which has space for 3000 volumes, is one of the most magnificent rooms. Mantel doors, door frames, and bookcases are of hand-carved English and American walnut embellished with polished steel cabochon and strapwork ornaments in Elizabethan style. The ceiling is coffered in black walnut panels with frescoed centers and the paper covering the walls simulates Moroccan leather. The floor parquetry consists of five different woods in geometric patterns.

Nine large rooms are upstairs as well as servants' rooms. Judging from tiles and stenciled walls, these rooms were furnished in a variety of styles including Moorish, Italian, and Gothic. All bedroom suites were accompanied by elaborate dressing rooms. There are fourteen bathrooms featuring Italian marble counters, bronze, gilded or silver faucets, with bowls hand-painted to match motifs in the adjoining rooms. All the walls and ceilings are frescoed or paneled, and several fireplaces in the bedrooms are masterpieces of decorative art, most of them containing their original fenders and irons.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Connecticut	
COUNTY Fairfield	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.10.09. 0031	DATE 10/15/70

(Number all entries)

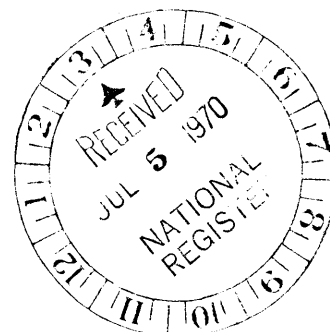
Present and original physical appearance...

2

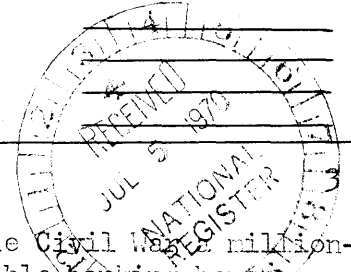
The servants' quarters continue up to the third floor. Four large rooms here have frescoes and marble fireplaces. The basement is finished with flagstone floors, plastered ceilings with arching brick supports and whitewashed walls. The total area here is approximately 5200 square feet, including a storage vault, the bakery with brick ovens and fireplace, a refrigerator, wine cellars and bowling alleys.

From a pamphlet, The Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum published by the Junior League of Stamford-Norwalk; June, 1966.

Today most of the Lockwood-Mathews estate provides headquarters and service areas for the city of Norwalk. The one and one-half story lodge which housed the Lockwood family during the construction of the mansion has been turned into a Civil Defense Building. The stable provides offices for the city of Norwalk. Most of the twenty-five acres are used as service-areas by the Norwalk Police Department. Recently the exterior of the mansion has been sandblasted and pointed. Repairs have been made to the windows, roof and gutters, and the conservatory has been demolished. The slate roof is in good condition. The interior has suffered some water damage, but most of the decay has been caught on time.



SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>Social and</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	<u>Cultural History</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>The financier Le Grand Lockwood emerged from the Civil War as a millionaire, head of one of the wealthiest and most reputable banking houses of New York, and treasurer of the New York Stock Exchange. In 1864 he began construction of the Lockwood mansion. He chose as architect for his mansion Detlef Lienau, one of the charter members of the American Institute of Architects. (The interiors are attributed to Leon Marcotte a well-known interior decorator.) Lienau was a Paris-trained architect who introduced the Second Empire Style to the United States in the middle of the nineteenth century. In the design of the Lockwood mansion Lienau successfully satisfied the Victorian demand for the picturesque by combining the classical planning and embellishment characteristic of the Second Empire Style with the addition of a single tower and a large veranda. The Lockwood mansion is a prototype of the Chateausque style of building which characterized the great mansions of the Gilded Age.</p> <p>The Lockwood family was destined to enjoy the mansion for only a few years. Their fortune changed after the financial panic of 1869. Mr. Lockwood died in 1872. The estate was sold in 1876 to Charles D. Mathews, a New York importer, whose family lived in the mansion until 1938.</p> <p>The "Lockwood-Mathews Mansion" and 39 acres of land was then leased by the City of Norwalk for use as a park. In 1941 the State Legislature passed an enabling act allowing the city to issue bonds for \$200,000 to purchase the estate for "a park...and improvement thereof." From 1948 until 1963 it was called Veterans Memorial Park, a name now used for another local park.</p> <p>In 1943 the furniture was sold at auction, for a fraction of its value. Various city agencies occupied the building and also used it for storage of city records, old books and machinery.</p> <p>In 1959 city officials accepted a plan to build a city hall in the park and tear down the mansion to make way for it. Public outcry was loud and immediate. Protest meetings were held and the citizens demanded the right to inspect the building--which officials had declared unsafe and unusable.</p>			



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Pamphlets and recently published information about the Lockwood-Mathews Mansion. Especially "The Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum", published by the Junior League of Stamford-Norwalk in June, 1966.

Marcus Whiffen, American Architecture since 1780: A Guide to Styles. Cambridge: The MIT Press, 1969.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	41°	06'	32"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	73°	25'	03"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Constance Luyster, Administrative Trainee

ORGANIZATION: Connecticut Historical Commission DATE: March 4, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: 75 Elm Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hartford STATE: Connecticut CODE: 06

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name

State Liaison Officer and Chairman

Connecticut Historical Commission

Date March 4, 1970

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

001 15 187

Date

ATTEST:

S. J. Bradford
Assistant Keeper of The National Register

Date

Sept 28, 1970

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

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COUNTY Fairfield	
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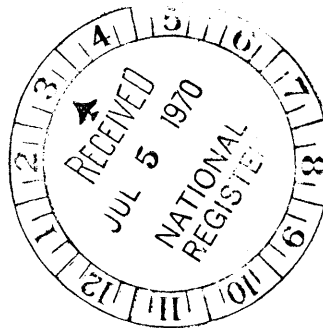
(Number all entries)

Statement of significance (Lockwood-Mathews Mansion)....

In January 1962 a public hearing was held. Overwhelming opinion was in favor of preserving the mansion. A group of citizens then formed the Common Interest Group of Norwalk, Inc., which led the battle for preservation. A volunteer guide service was formed. In less than 6 months, more than 4,000 people from 30 states and 6 foreign countries were shown through the building.

There were more hearings, and in November 1962 the Common Council put the mansion question to advisory referendum. Those in favor of renovating and preserving the mansion for civic purposes won the day. As a result alternate locations were considered for the city hall. After the spring of 1963 when the local fire marshall and the building inspector declared the building closed to the public its restoration was undertaken by the Junior League of Stamford-Norwalk. The Junior League has been supported in this undertaking by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the American Institute of Architects, the National Park Service, and the Connecticut Historical Commission.

The mansion has an important cultural role in the city of Norwalk because almost all traces of the city's colonial and victorian past have disappeared. Then the building is restored, the Museum corporation has planned an education program for elementary school to graduate level study, using the historical building as the starting point for discussions of present problems and their origins in the nineteenth century. As a study center for nineteenth century decorative arts and as a cultural center for Southwestern Connecticut and as a focus for community participation in the arts and humanities programs, the mansion will improve the quality of life for many people. Its location in an urban renewal area in the city makes it easily accessible to some of the culturally disadvantaged people of Norwalk.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Connecticut	
COUNTY	
Fairfield	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

9. Major Bibliographical References: Lockwood-Mathews Mansion:

Ellen W. Kramer, "Ditlef Lienau," Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Vol. XIV, No. 1 (March, 1955), 18-25.

Margaret Donald Schaack, "History in Houses: The Lockwood-Mathews Mansion," Antiques Magazine, Vol. XCVII, No. 3 (March, 1970), 378-81.

Mrs. Mary E. Adams, The Lockwood-Mathews Mansion (Norwalk, Conn., 1969).

Latitude $41^{\circ} 06' 32''$
Longitude $73^{\circ} 25' 03''$

Lockwood Matthews
Mansion

NORWALK SOUTH QUADRANGLE
CONNECTICUT-FAIRFIELD CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

MI. TO N.Y. 35
MERRITT PKWY. 1.5 MI.

DANBURY 21 MI.
MERRITT PKWY. 1.3 MI.

1420 000 FEET

BRIDGEPORT (CITY HALL) 12 MI.
WESTPORT 2.1 MI.

$73^{\circ} 22' 30''$
 $41^{\circ} 07' 30''$

